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Conference of European Statisticians

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Item 9 of the provisional agenda
Election of the Conference of European Statisticians Bureau

Election of the Bureau of the Conference for the 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 period

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

In accordance with the Rules governing the work of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau (see ECE/CES/2007/8), the Conference elects its Bureau for a period of two years. The current term of all members of the Bureau of the Conference expires at the closing of the 2015 plenary session, on 17 June 2015. Elections for a Chair and for the Vice-Chairs will be held at the 2015 plenary session for the two-year period from June 2015 to June 2017.

The present note explains the procedure for the elections of the new Bureau. The elections will be carried out on 17 June 2015 under item 9 of the agenda.

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1. The current term of all members of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) expires at the closing of the 2015 plenary session, on 17 June 2015. At the 2015 plenary session, elections for a Chair and for the Vice-Chairs will be held for the two-year period from June 2015 to June 2017.

2. In addition to the elected members of the Bureau, representatives of some international organizations active in statistics participate as permanent observers on the Bureau as stated in the Rules paragraph 14 (a): "Standing invitations are extended to the Director-General of Eurostat, the Chief Statistician of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Chairman of the OECD Committee on Statistics, the Chairman of the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT), the Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Statistics Department and the Director of the Development Data Group of the World Bank. The Director of the United Nations Statistical Division is invited to participate in Bureau meetings as a representative of the United Nations secretariat."

3. The elections of the Bureau are governed by the rules adopted by the Conference at its 1991 plenary session and reconfirmed with minor amendments in 2005. These rules are provided in the document ECE/CES/2007/8.

4. As explained in paragraph 13 (a) of the Rules governing the work of the Conference and its Bureau (see ECE/CES/2007/8), "any member of the Conference is eligible for membership in the Bureau of the Conference". A member in the Conference is defined in the Rules, paragraph 5, as "the Head of the statistical service of any member country of the United Nations that participates regularly in the work of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe".

5. It is thus possible for the Head of the statistical service of a country outside the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region to be a member of the Conference, and to be elected to its Bureau. According to the Rules, paragraph 13 (b), the size of the Bureau can be up to 8 members, of whom 6 members should be from countries in the UNECE region. The remaining one or two members could potentially be from countries in other United Nations regions to ensure synergies of work and exchange of knowledge and experience.

6. The Bureau currently consists of the following persons, who were elected at the 2013 plenary session, or co-opted by the Bureau later to replace Bureau members who left the post of the Head of office and could no longer serve on the Bureau:

Chairman: Mr. W. Smith (Canada), first term as the Chairperson, and second term as the Bureau member;

Vice-Chairs: Mr. K. Pesendorfer (Austria), first term;

Ms. M. Bruun (Finland), first full term (Ms. Bruun was co-opted in November 2012);

Mr. E. Sojo Garza-Aldape (Mexico), second term;

Mr. B. Aydemir (Turkey), first term;

Mr. J. Pullinger (the United Kingdom), co-opted in October 2014;

7. Three Bureau members left the Bureau before their terms had expired: Mr. B. Pink (Australia), Ms. J. Matheson (the United Kingdom) and Mr. O. Osaulenko (Ukraine). Mr. J. Pullinger (the United Kingdom) was co-opted to replace Ms. J. Matheson (the United Kingdom) in October 2014.

8. According to the Rules paragraph 16 (c), the "Chairman of the Conference may be re-elected once. Any previous Chairman may be re-elected Chairman after an interruption

of at least two years". The current Chairman has served one term, and therefore, Mr. W. Smith can be re-elected as a Chairman of the Conference.

9. According to the Rules paragraph 15 (d), "Bureau members can be elected to four successive Bureaus" and "any previous Bureau member can be re-elected to the Bureau after an interruption of at least two years". Therefore, all Vice-Chairs of the current Bureau whose term of office expires in June 2015 are eligible to be re-elected. Furthermore, all members of the Conference who previously served as Chairs or Vice-Chairs, are also eligible to be re-elected as members of the Bureau.

10. There are no formal nominations for Bureau membership. Paragraph 15 (a) of the Rules provides for the elections to the Bureau to be organized by "the most senior previous Chairman of the Conference present at the plenary session concerned". Ms. K. Wallman, Chief Statistician of the United States, is the most senior previous Chairman of the Conference and, therefore, she will be in charge of organizing the elections of the Bureau. The proposal will be prepared in consultation with all the CES members, so that "it maximises the chances of being adopted by consensus" (paragraph 15 (a) of the Rules).

11. Elections for the Chair and Vice-Chairs for a period of two years will be held on Wednesday, 17 June 2015 under item 9 of the CES plenary session agenda.